

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 9-19 in accordance with the following:

1-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A method for communication in a radio communication system comprising mobile stations and network-side devices, the network-side devices comprising network-side antennas distributed over a plurality of positions within a radio cell, the method comprising:

transmitting a ~~signalingrequest~~ message ~~which~~that requests a mobile station to transmit a ~~responsesignaling~~ message, the ~~signalingrequest~~ message being transmitted via at least one network-side antenna, the ~~signalingrequest~~ message being transmitted to the mobile station and being used exclusively for requesting the ~~responsesignaling~~ message;

receiving the ~~responsesignaling~~ message from the mobile station, the ~~responsesignaling~~ message being received by at least ~~someone~~ of the network-side antennas; and

after receiving the ~~responsesignaling~~ message, transmitting a user data message to the mobile station via a plurality of transmitting network-side antennas, the transmitting network-side antennas being selected ~~from the plurality of network-side antennas based on which~~as only the network-side antennas that received the ~~responsesignaling~~ message from the mobile station.

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein the ~~signalingrequest~~ message is sent at regular time intervals.

11. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 9, wherein the ~~signalingrequest~~ message is transmitted only when a certain period of time elapsed since the last transmission of a message of the same type as the ~~signalingrequest~~ message.

12. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 9, wherein

the signalingrequest message is transmitted via all network-side antennas of the radio cell.

13. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 9, wherein the radio communication system has a plurality of cells, each with a plurality of network-side antennas distributed therein, and the signalingrequest message is transmitted via all network-side antennas of all radio cells.

14. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 9, wherein the signalingrequest message is transmitted from a plurality of network-side antennas, and the plurality of network-side antennas used to transmit the signalingrequest message all belong to a same radio cell.

15. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 9, wherein the signalingrequest message is transmitted from a plurality of network-side antennas, the radio communication system has a plurality of cells, each with a plurality of network-side antennas distributed therein, and the plurality of network-side antennas used to transmit the signalingrequest message reside in at least two different radio cells.

16. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 15, wherein the signalingrequest message identifies the radio cell in which the network-side antenna resides, and the ~~response~~signaling message identifies the radio cell or radio cells from which the mobile station received the signalingrequest message.

17. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 11, wherein the signalingrequest message is transmitted via all network-side antennas of the radio cell.

18. (Currently Amended) A network-side device in a radio communications system, which comprises network-side antennas distributed over a plurality of positions within a radio

cell, the network-side device comprising:

means for receiving, via at least ~~someone~~ one of the network-side antennas, a ~~responsesignaling~~ response signaling message from a mobile station or for receiving information about receipt of the ~~responsesignaling~~ response signaling message from the mobile station, which ~~responsesignaling~~ response signaling message was received via at least ~~someone~~ one of the network-side antennas, the ~~responsesignaling~~ response signaling message being received in response to a ~~signalingrequest~~ signaling request message sent to and received at the mobile station via at least one network-side antenna, the ~~signalingrequest~~ signaling request message being transmitted exclusively for the purpose of requesting the ~~responsesignaling~~ response signaling message;

means for choosing transmitting network-side antennas from the plurality of network-side antennas, the transmitting network-side antennas being chosen ~~based on which~~ based on which only the network-side antennas ~~that~~ that received the ~~responsesignaling~~ response signaling message from the mobile station; and

means for causing a user data message to be transmitted to the mobile station via the transmitting network-side antennas.

19. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium storing a computer program for a network-side device in a radio communications system, which comprises network-side antennas distributed over a plurality of positions within a radio cell, the ~~computer program~~ program ~~when executed by a computer causes the computer to perform a method~~ comprising:

~~means for~~ receiving information about receipt of a ~~responsesignaling~~ response signaling message from a mobile station, the ~~responsesignaling~~ response signaling message being received ~~via at least someone~~ via at least one of the network-side antennas, the ~~responsesignaling~~ response signaling message being received in response to a ~~signalingrequest~~ signaling request message sent to and received at the mobile station via at least one network-side antenna, the ~~signalingrequest~~ signaling request message being transmitted exclusively for the purpose of requesting the ~~responsesignaling~~ response signaling message;

~~means for~~ choosing transmitting network-side antennas from the plurality of network-side antennas, the transmitting network-side antennas being chosen ~~based on which~~ based on which only the network-side antennas ~~that~~ that received the ~~responsesignaling~~ response signaling message from the mobile station; and

~~means for~~ causing a user data message to be transmitted to the mobile station via the transmitting network-side antennas.